

# VIRGINIA EASTERN SHORE WASTE WATER PERMITS

and federal laws and regulations require that any person (facility) discharging waste water containing material harmful to health or the environment (pollutant) into surface water or, in some cases, onto the land where it might enter or cause contamination to surface water or ground water; or, affect the use of a water body, must have a permit allowing the discharge and must meet the requirements contained in that permit. Such requirements are designed to provide the maximum possible protection to surface or ground water from the pollution effects of the discharge.

There are two types of wastewater permits issued in Virginia:

## **VPDES - or – Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits:**

VPDES permits allow the discharge of pollutants to surface water. A program originating with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and administered in Virginia with federal financial assistance and oversight. VPDES permits have a 5 year term.

## **NPDES - or – Virginia Pollution Abatement Permits:**

NPDES permits are issued under a permit program based on state laws and regulations. These are no-discharge permits are issued to facilities that use wastewater treatment that usually involves application of waste water onto the land in a manner that does not result in a discharge into a receiving stream or into the ground water. These permits have a 5 year term.

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There are two subclasses of VPDES and VPA permits:

**Individual Permits:** permits customized and specially developed to address unique needs for control of the discharge from a city, industrial, or commercial site.

**General Permits:** Permits designed for classes of industries or commercial sites with common types of operations and similar waste waters. All facilities in a particular category are issued the same general permit.

## VPDES General Permits on the Eastern Shore

Ready Mix Concrete Plants; Car Washes; NonMetallic Mineral Mining (Sand); Seafood Processing Plants

Domestic Waste Treatment Systems (for homes where soil absorption fields do not work, must have capacity less than 1000 gallons per day)

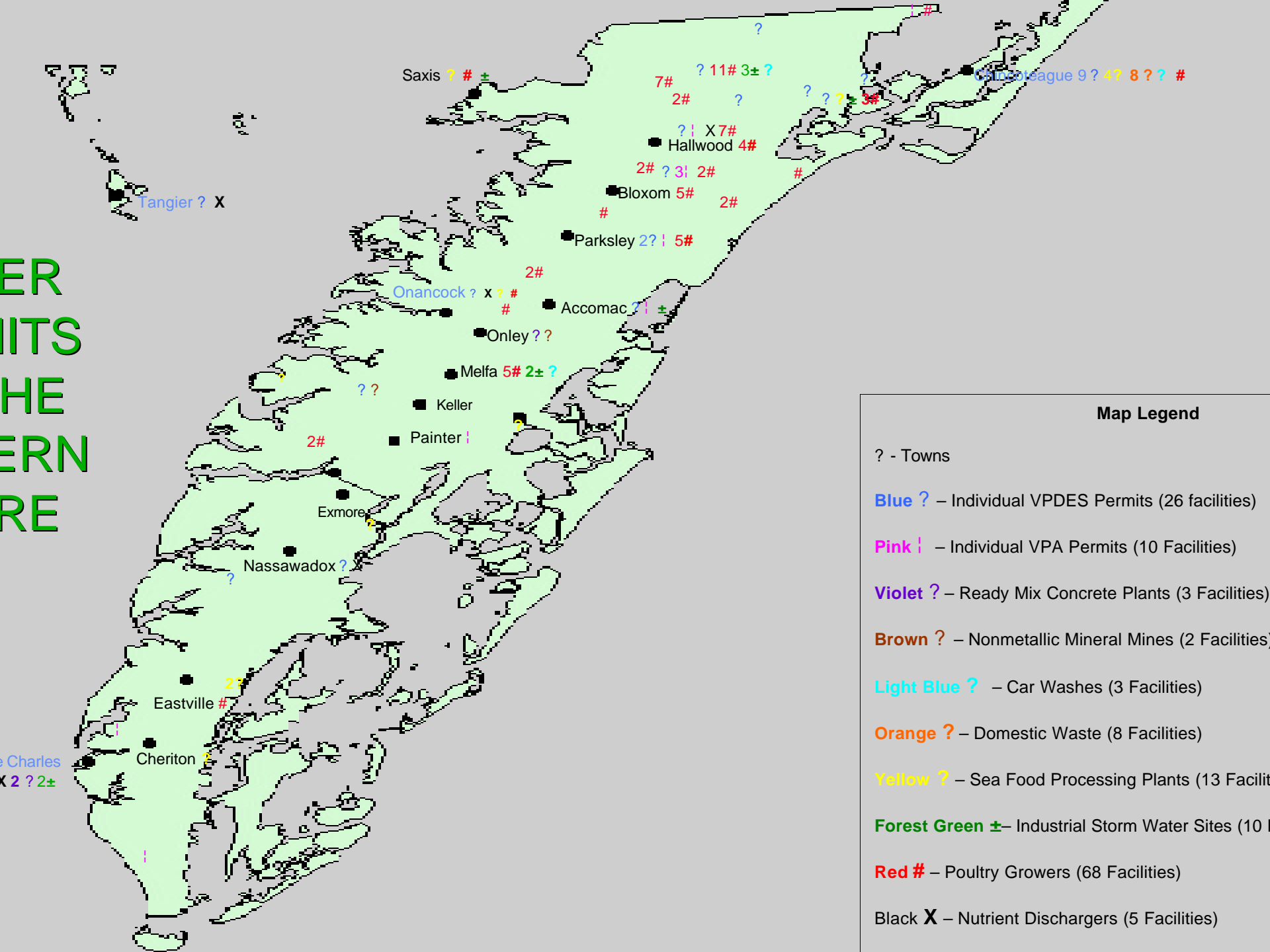
Industrial Storm Water (storm water runoff from certain industrial sites)

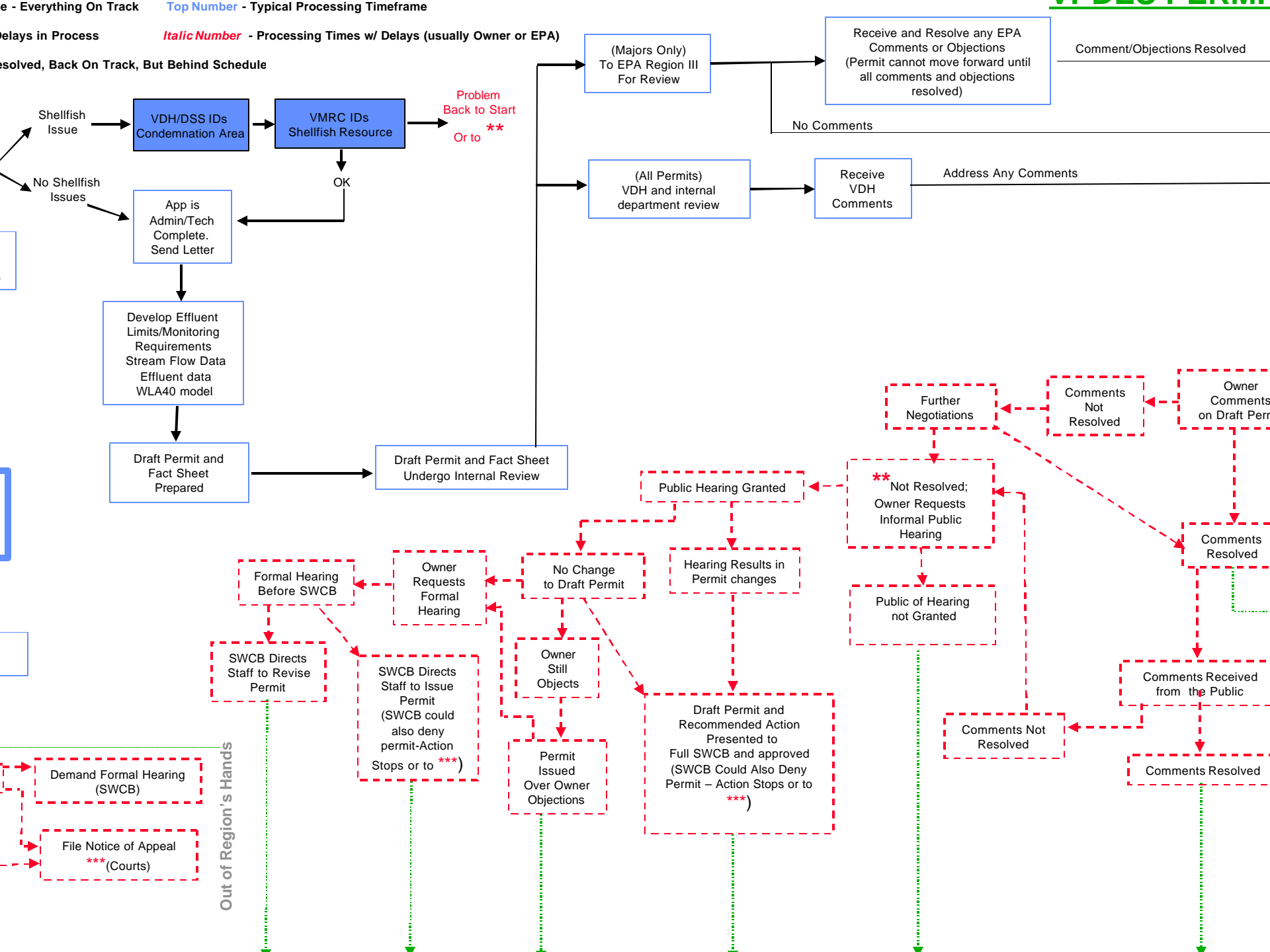
## General Permits on the Eastern Shore

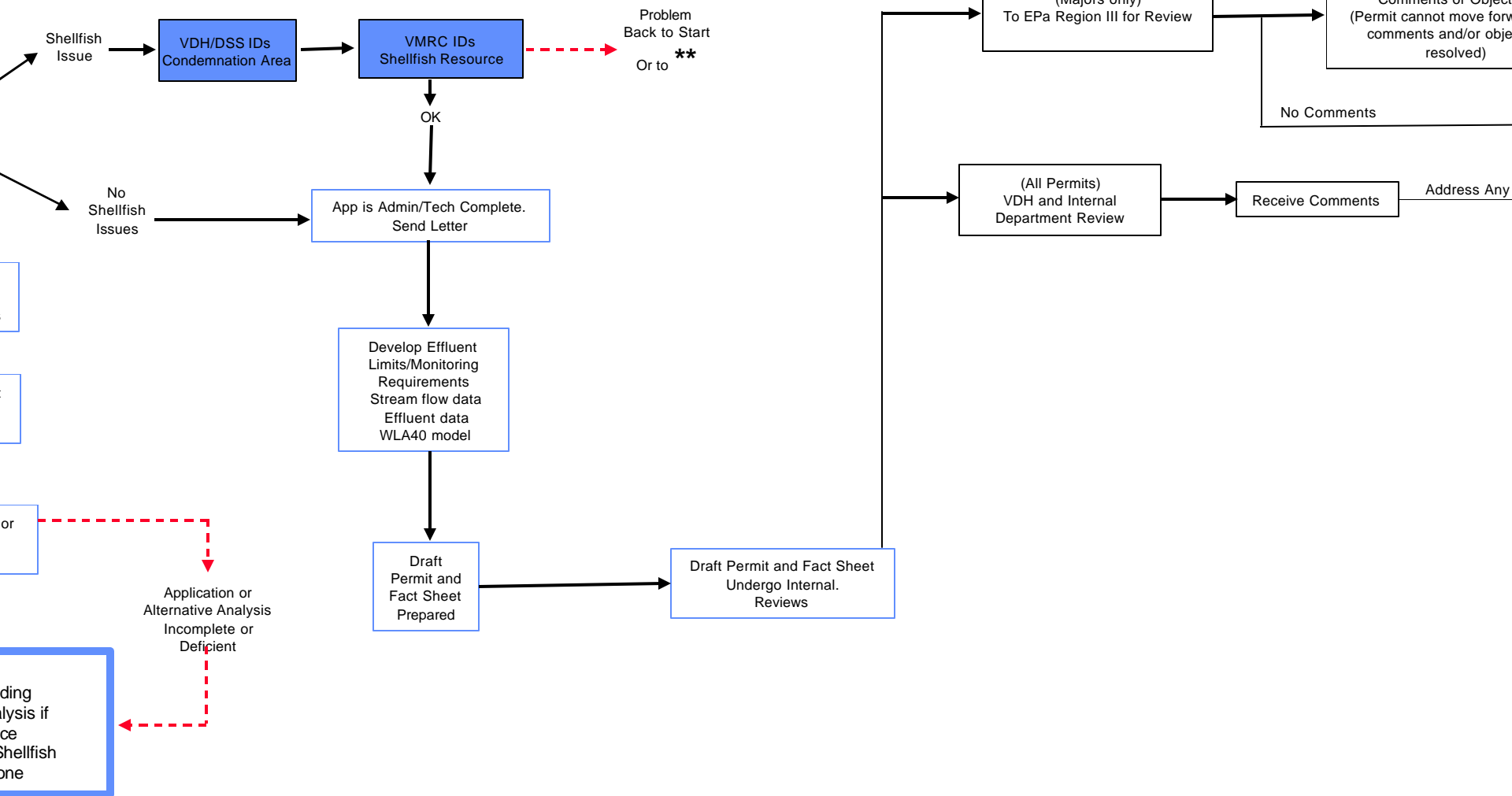
Poultry Waste Management (20,000 chickens or more in a confined feeding operation)

General Permit Coverage for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity  
Administered by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

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**\*\*** Not Resolved  
Owner Requests  
Informal Public Hearing

# PERMIT PROCESS INCORPORATING ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS